Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing a hot key corresponding to a particular function in a computer system, the computer system having a graphical user interface (GUI), the particular function <u>provided</u> for a context <u>of an application program, a user providing input within the context</u>, the method comprising the steps of:

integrating a hot key configuring function into the GUI such that a user can access the hot key configuring function from <u>within</u> the context <u>and without leaving the context</u>; and

<u>mapping the hot key to the particular function and storing the mapping, the mapping and storing performed without the user leaving the context and in response to the user utilizing the hot key configuring function in the context, wherein the mapping allows the particular function to be accessed by the computer system when the hot key is selected.</u>

~~allowing a user to utilize the hot key configuring function in the context to map the hot key to the particular function.~~

2. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

accounting for ambiguities~~, if any,~~ between the hot key and a pre-existing hot key.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the context includes a plurality of items in the GUI, one of the plurality of items corresponding to the particular function, wherein

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the computer system includes a mouse, and wherein hot key configuring function integrating step further includes the steps of:

determining the plurality of items selectable in the context; and

providing a mechanism ~~for mapping~~ that maps at least one of the plurality of items to the hot key from the context without the user leaving the context.

4. (currently amended) The method of claim 3 wherein the hot key configuring function integrating step further includes the step of:

providing ~~means for accounting~~ a mechanism that accounts for ambiguities~~, if any,~~ between the hot key and a pre-existing hot key.

5. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~user allowing~~ mapping step further includes the steps of:

~~allowing the user to select~~ receiving a key combination selected by the user ~~for~~ as the hot key.

6. (original) The method of claim 5 wherein the key combination includes a plurality of keys.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim [5] 35 wherein the receiving of the selection of the particular function includes ~~key combination selecting step further includes the step of:~~ ~~position of a pointer performing a pointing device action on a portion of the~~ receiving input from the user indicating an item displayed in the context, the item causing the particular function to be

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accessed when the item is selected.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim [7] 37 wherein the ~~pointing device action~~ indicating of the item includes clicking on a portion of [a] the text of the item and wherein the portion of the text is assigned as a portion of the hot key.

9. (Cancelled).

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the computer system further includes a pointing device, wherein the context ~~include~~ includes a displayed feature corresponding to the particular function and wherein the ~~user allowing~~ mapping step further includes the steps of:

receiving an indication of ~~allowing the user to hover the pointing device over the feature to indicate~~ the particular function to which the hot key is to be mapped when the user hovers the pointing device over the displayed feature for a predetermined amount of time; and

receiving a selection of ~~allowing the user to select~~ a key combination as the hot key.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium [including a] storing program instructions for providing a hot key corresponding to a particular function in a computer system, the computer system having a graphical user interface (GUI), the particular function provided for a context of an application program, a user providing input within the context, the

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program [including] instructions for:

  integrating a hot key configuring function into the GUI such that a user can access the hot key configuring function from <u>within</u> the context <u>and without leaving the context</u>; and

  <u>mapping the hot key to the particular function and storing the mapping, the mapping and storing performed without the user leaving the context and in response to the user utilizing the hot key configuring function in the context, wherein the mapping allows the particular function to be accessed by the computer system when the hot key is selected.</u>

  ~~allowing a user to utilize the hot key configuring function in the context to map the hot key to the particular function.~~

13. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein the program further includes instructions for:

  accounting for ambiguities~~, if any,~~ between the hot key and a pre-existing hot key.

14. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein the context includes a plurality of items in the GUI, one of the plurality of items corresponding to the particular function, wherein the computer system includes a mouse, and wherein hot key configuring function integrating instructions further includes instructions for:

  determining the plurality of items selectable in the context; and

  providing a mechanism ~~for mapping~~ <u>that maps</u> at least one of the plurality of items to the hot key from the context <u>without the user leaving the context</u>.

15. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 wherein the hot key

configuring function integrating instructions further includes instructions for:

providing ~~means for accounting~~ <u>a mechanism that accounts</u> for ambiguities~~, if any,~~ between the hot key and a pre-existing hot key.

16. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein the ~~user allowing~~ <u>mapping</u> instructions further includes instructions for:

~~allowing the user to select~~ <u>receiving</u> a key combination <u>selected by the user</u> ~~for~~ <u>as</u> the hot key<u>, the key combination including a plurality of keys</u>.

17. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [16] <u>1</u> wherein the ~~key combination selecting~~ <u>mapping of the hot key</u> instructions further includes instructions for:

<u>receiving input from the user indicating an item displayed in the context, the item causing the particular function to be accessed when the item is selected</u> ~~performing a pointing device action on a portion of the item~~.

18. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim [17] <u>41</u> wherein the ~~pointing device action~~ <u>indicating of the item</u> includes clicking on a portion of [a] <u>the</u> text of the item and wherein the portion of the text is assigned as a portion of the hot key.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (currently amended) The computer-readable medium of claim 12 wherein the

computer system further includes a pointing device, wherein the context ~~include~~ <u>includes</u> a

<u>displayed</u> feature corresponding to the particular function and wherein the ~~user allowing~~ <u>mapping</u>

instructions further includes instructions for:

<u>receiving an indication of</u> ~~allowing the user to hover the pointing device over the feature~~

~~to indicate~~ the particular function to which the hot key is to be mapped <u>when the user hovers the</u>

<u>pointing device over the displayed feature for at least a predetermined amount of time</u>; <u>and</u>

<u>receiving a selection of</u> ~~allowing the user to select~~ a key combination as the hot key.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (currently amended) A computer system comprising:

<u>a hardware mechanism that provides</u> [providing] an application<u>, the application</u> providing

a context and having a particular function available therein<u>, the particular function provided for a</u>

<u>context of an application program, a user providing input within the context</u>;

a graphical user interface (GUI); and

a hot key configuring function integrated into the GUI such that a user can access the hot

key configuring function from <u>within</u> the context <u>and without leaving the context</u>, the integrated

hot key configuring function ~~allowing~~ <u>utilized by</u> [a] <u>the</u> user to ~~utilize the hot key configuring~~

~~function in the context to map~~ <u>designate a mapping of</u> the hot key to the particular function <u>and</u>

<u>store the mapping without the user leaving the context, wherein the mapping allows the</u>

<u>particular function to be accessed by the computer system when the hot key is selected</u>.

24. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 23 wherein the integrated hot key

configuring function further accounts for ambiguities, ~~if any,~~ between the hot key and a pre-existing hot key.

25. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 23 wherein the context includes a plurality of items in the GUI, one of the plurality of items corresponding to the particular function, wherein the computer system includes a mouse, and wherein <u>the</u> hot key configuring function further determines the plurality of items selectable in the context and provides a mechanism ~~for mapping~~ <u>that maps</u> at least one of the plurality of buttons to the hot key from the context.

26. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 25 wherein the hot key configuring function further includes ~~means for accounting~~ <u>a mechanism that accounts</u> for ambiguities, ~~if any,~~ between the hot key and a pre-existing hot key.

27. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 23 wherein the hot key configuring function further ~~allows the user to select~~ <u>receiving</u> a key combination <u>selected by the user</u> ~~for~~ <u>as</u> the hot key, <u>the key combination including a plurality of keys</u>.

28. (Cancelled).

29. (currently amended) The computer system of claim ~~26~~ <u>43</u> wherein the <u>selection of the particular function includes the user indicating an item displayed in the context, the item causing the particular function to be accessed when the item is selected</u> ~~hot key configuring function~~

allows the user to select the key combination by performing a pointing device action on a portion of the item.

30. (currently amended) The computer system of claim ~~29~~ 45 wherein the ~~pointing device action~~ indicating of the item includes clicking on a portion of [a] the text of the item and wherein the portion of the text is assigned as a portion of the hot key.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 26 wherein the computer system further includes a pointing device, wherein the context ~~include~~ includes a displayed feature corresponding to the particular function and wherein the hot key configuring function receives an indication of ~~further allows the user to hover the pointing device over the feature to indicate~~ the particular function to which the hot key is to be mapped when the user hovers the pointing device over the displayed feature for at least a predetermined amount of time, and receives a selection of ~~allowing the user to select~~ a key combination as the hot key.

33. (Cancelled).

34. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein mapping the hot key to the particular function without the user leaving the context includes mapping the hot key to the particular function without the user providing input to a menu separate from the context.

35. (new) The method of claim 1 wherein mapping the hot key to the particular function without the user leaving the context includes receiving a selection of the particular function made by the user without the user providing input to a menu separate from the context.

36. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein the indicating of the item displayed in the context includes the user hovering a pointing device over a portion of the item in the GUI for a predetermined amount of time.

37. (new) The method of claim 7 wherein the item is a text-based item including text, and wherein the indicating of the item includes selecting text of the item.

38. (new) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 12 wherein mapping the hot key to the particular function without the user leaving the context includes mapping the hot key to the particular function without the user providing input to a menu separate from the context.

39. (new) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 12 wherein mapping the hot key to the particular function without the user leaving the context includes receiving a selection of the particular function made by the user without the user providing input to a menu separate from the context.

40. (new) The computer-readable storage mediumof claim 17 wherein the indicating of the item displayed in the context includes the user hovering a pointing device over a portion of the item in the GUI for a predetermined amount of time.

41. (new) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 17 wherein the item is a text-based item including text, and wherein the indicating of the item includes selecting text of the item.

42. (new) The computer system of claim 23 wherein the mapping of the hot key to the particular function without the user leaving the context includes a mapping of the hot key to the particular function without the user providing input to a menu separate from the context.

43. (new) The computer system of claim 23 wherein the designation of the mapping includes the hot key configuring function receiving a selection of the particular function made by the user without the user providing input to a menu separate from the context.

44. (new) The computer system of claim 29 wherein the indication of the item displayed in the context includes the user hovering a pointing device over a portion of the item in the GUI for a predetermined amount of time.

45. (new) The computer system of claim 29 wherein the item is a text-based item including text, and wherein the indicating of the item includes selecting text of the item.